

Application Serial No. 10/607,275
Amendment after final dated July 5, 2005
Reply to final Office action of March 24, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A utility device having a hydraulically operated utility mechanism, comprising:
 - a) a utility mechanism having at least two hydraulic drives;
 - b) a hydraulic circuit including a pair of feed ports, a first pair of outlet ports to a first of said hydraulic drives and second pair of outlet ports to a second of said hydraulic drives; and
 - c. said hydraulic circuit including a first fluid circulation path between said feed ports and said first pair of outlet ports and a second fluid circulation path between said feed ports and said second pair of outlet ports, said first fluid circulation path including a pressure drop component and said second fluid circulation path including a directional valve and a shuttling valve arranged to direct fluid to said directional valve from said first fluid circulation path irrespective of a direction of fluid flow in said first fluid circulation path.
2. (Original) The utility device of claim 1, wherein said hydraulic circuit is configured to permit flow through said hydraulic circuit currently both a) to-or-from said first pair of outlet ports and b) to-or-from said second pair of outlet ports.
3. (Original) The utility device of claim 2, wherein said utility device is a utility vehicle.
4. (Original) The utility device of claim 3, wherein said utility mechanism includes a ground-tool and said first of said hydraulic drives powers said ground-tool.
5. (Original) The utility device of claim 4, wherein said first of said hydraulic drives causes an element of said ground-tool to rotate.
6. (Original) The utility device of claim 4, wherein said second of said hydraulic drives adjusts a position of said element of said ground-tool.
7. (Original) The utility device of claim 6, wherein said second of said hydraulic drives causes said ground-tool to reciprocate.
8. (Original) The utility device of claim 3, wherein a position of said tool is adjusted via

said second of said hydraulic drives at the same time that said first of said hydraulic drives rotates said tool and at the same time that said utility vehicle is driven.

9. (Original) The utility device of claim 8, wherein said first of said hydraulic drives is a hydraulic motor and said second of said hydraulic drives is a hydraulic cylinder.

10. (Original) The utility device of claim 1, wherein said second circulation path includes check valves for returning fluid to said first circulation path.

11. (Original) The utility device of claim 1, wherein said directional valve is a solenoid directional valve.

12. (Original) The utility device of claim 1, wherein said first circulation path further includes an on-off valve in parallel to said pressure drop component.

13. (Original) The utility device of claim 1, wherein said pressure drop component is a restrictor.

14-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for hydraulically operating a utility mechanism of a utility vehicle, comprising:

- a) supplying hydraulic fluid into a feed port of a hydraulic circuit for said utility mechanism;
- b) supplying hydraulic fluid fed into said feed port in a direction along a first circulation path through said hydraulic circuit to cause a first hydraulic drive to operate a power function of said utility mechanism;
- c) supplying hydraulic fluid fed into said feed port in a direction along a second circulation path through said hydraulic circuit to cause a second hydraulic drive to operate a position function of said utility mechanism; and
- d) concurrently performing said steps b) and c) while said utility vehicle is driven;
- e) supplying hydraulic fluid fed into said feed port in a reverse direction along said first circulation path through said hydraulic circuit to cause said first hydraulic drive to reverse operate the power function of said utility mechanism;
- f) supplying hydraulic fluid fed into said feed port in a reverse direction along said second circulation path through said hydraulic circuit to cause said second hydraulic drive to reverse operate the position function of said utility mechanism;

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and

g) concurrently performing said steps e) and f) while said utility vehicle is driven.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said first hydraulic drive is a hydraulic motor.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said second hydraulic drive is a hydraulic cylinder.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said utility mechanism is a ground-tool having a rotated ground-contact element and further including varying an orientation of said ground-contact element while said ground-contact element is rotated.